

REMARKS

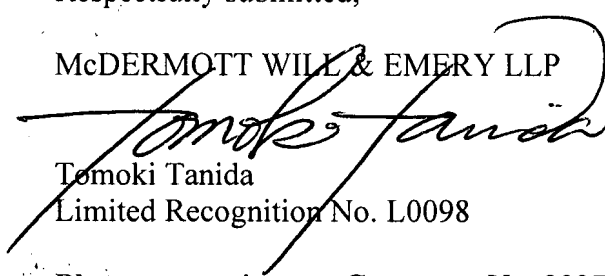
At the time of the Office Action dated February 9, 2007, claims 1-15, 17-20, 22, and 23 were pending in this application. Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-13. Claims 14, 17, 18, 19, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shimomura et al. (paragraph 2 of the Office Action), and claims 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimomura et al. in view of Waarts et al. (paragraph 4 of the Office Action).

In this Amendment, claims 11 and 13 have been amended to correct minor errors. Claims 14, 15, 17-20, 22, and 23, rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§102(e) and 103(a), have been canceled, without prejudice, reserving right to prosecution in a continuation application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully solicits withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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